

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sheet, ~~made of~~ comprising:

a resin composition comprising the following

an elastomeric styrene polymer, and

component (B1),

component (B2), and

component (B3),

in a mass ratio of elastomeric styrene polymer to the total amount of components (B1), (B2) and (B3) of from 98/2 to 80/20[[:]];

wherein said elastomeric ~~Elastomeric styrene polymer: An elastomeric styrene polymer which~~ comprises

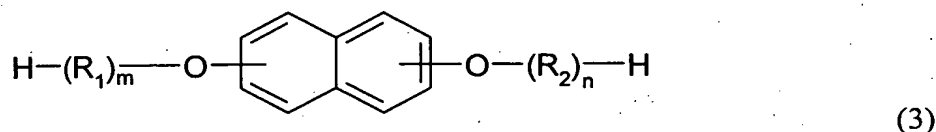
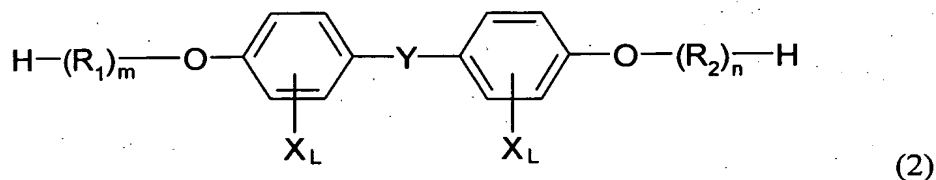
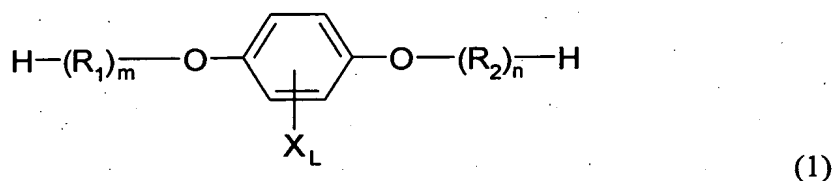
(I) from 40 to 95 parts by mass of a continuous phase of a copolymer comprising from 20 to 80 mass% of styrene monomer units, from 80 to 20 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units and from 0 to 10 mass% of units of other vinyl monomers copolymerizable with such monomers, and

(II) from 60 to 5 parts by mass of a dispersed phase of a graft copolymer having from 20 to 90 parts by mass of graft branches of a copolymer comprising from 20 to 80 mass% of styrene monomer units, from 80 to 20 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units and from 0 to 10 mass% of units of other vinyl monomers copolymerizable with such monomers, grafted to from 10 to 80 parts by mass of an elastomer,

wherein the volume average particle size of the dispersed phase is from 0.1 to 0.6 μm , and the difference in the refractive index between the continuous phase and the dispersed phase is not more than 0.05;

wherein component ~~Component~~ (B1) ~~is an~~ is an aminocarboxylic acid having at least 6 carbon atoms, a lactam, or a salt of a diamine with a carboxylic acid, having at least 6 carbon atoms;

wherein component ~~Component~~ (B2) ~~is at~~ is at least one diol compound selected from the following chemical formulae (1) to (3):



wherein R_1 is an ethylene oxide group, R_2 is an ethylene oxide group or a propylene oxide group, Y is a covalent bond, a C_{1-6} alkylene group, a C_{1-6} alkylidene group, a C_{7-17} cycloalkylidene group, a C_{7-17} arylalkylidene group, O, SO, SO_2 , CO, S, CF_2 , $\text{C}(\text{CF}_3)_2$ or NH, L in X_L is an integer of from 1 to 4, and each of m and n is an integer of at least 16; and

wherein component ~~Component~~ (B3) ~~is a~~ is a polyether ester amide having a C_{4-20} dicarboxylic acid copolymerized.

2. (Currently Amended) A multilayer sheet, which comprises:

a substrate layer ~~made of~~ comprising a thermoplastic resin (C) and a surface layer ~~made of~~ comprising the resin composition as defined in Claim 1, formed on at least one side of the substrate layer.

3. (Currently Amended) The multilayer sheet according to Claim 2, wherein the substrate layer is ~~made of~~ comprises ~~the following~~ an elastomeric styrene polymer[[:]] comprising

~~— Elastomeric styrene polymer: An elastomeric styrene polymer which comprises~~

(I) from 40 to 95 parts by mass of a continuous phase of a copolymer comprising from 20 to 80 mass% of styrene monomer units, from 80 to 20 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units and from 0 to 10 mass% of units of other vinyl monomers copolymerizable with such monomers, and

(II) from 60 to 5 parts by mass of a dispersed phase of a graft copolymer having from 20 to 90 parts by mass of graft branches of a copolymer comprising from 20 to 80 mass% of styrene monomer units, from 80 to 20 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units and from 0 to 10 mass% of units of other vinyl monomers copolymerizable with such monomers, grafted to from 10 to 80 parts by mass of an elastomer,

wherein the volume average particle size of the dispersed phase is from 0.1 to 0.6 μm , and the difference in the refractive index between the continuous phase and the dispersed phase is not more than 0.05.

4. (Currently Amended) The multilayer sheet according to Claim 2, wherein the substrate layer is ~~made of~~ comprises ~~the following~~ a component (D)[[:]] which is an

~~Component (D):~~ An elastomeric styrene polymer which comprises from 99 to 85 parts by mass of a continuous phase comprising from 35 to 75 mass% of styrene monomer units and from 65 to 25 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units, and from 1 to 15 parts by mass of a dispersed phase of an elastomer.

5. (Currently Amended) A multilayer sheet, which comprises:
a substrate layer of an elastomeric styrene polymer comprising from 1 to 20 parts by mass of a dispersed phase of an elastomer comprising from 30 to 50 mass% of styrene monomer units and from 70 to 50 mass% of butadiene monomer units, and from 99 to 80 parts by mass of a continuous phase of a polymer comprising from 35 to 75 mass% of styrene monomer units and from 65 to 25 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units, and
a surface layer of a styrene polymer comprising from 35 to 75 mass% of styrene monomer units and from 65 to 25 mass% of (meth)acrylate monomer units, formed on each side of the substrate layer.

6. (Original) The sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the styrene polymer comprises at most 3 parts by mass of a dispersed phase of an elastomer comprising from 30 to 50 mass% of styrene monomer units and from 70 to 50 mass% of butadiene monomer units, and from 97 to less than 100 parts by mass of a continuous phase of a polymer comprising styrene monomer units and (meth)acrylate monomer units.

7. (Original) The sheet according to any one of Claims 2 to 6, wherein the total thickness is from 50 to 2,000 μm , and the thickness of the surface layer is from 3 to 20% of the total thickness.

8. (Currently Amended) The sheet according to ~~any one of Claims~~ Claim 5 to 7, wherein the refractive index of the surface layer at 25°C is within a range of ± 0.01 of the refractive index of the substrate layer.

9. (Currently Amended) A formed product, which comprises:
the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

10. (Currently Amended) An electronic component packaging container, which comprises:
the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

11. (Currently Amended) A food product packaging container, which comprises:
the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

12. (Currently Amended) An embossed carrier tape, which comprises:
the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

13. (Currently Amended) A soft tray which comprises the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

14. (Currently Amended) An electronic component package which comprises the sheet as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ 1 or 5 to 8.

15. (New) The product of Claim 9 which is obtained by air-pressure forming or vacuum forming.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

The Claims have been added to better conform to accepted US claim format. The amendment of Claim 1 is further supported at page 13, last paragraph.

New Claim 15 has been added as supported at page 20 starting at line 11 of the specification.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-15 will now be active in this application.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Kruer for the helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on August 28, 2006. During this discussion it was noted that Auclair does not disclose or suggest the use of components (B1), (B2) and (B3) in the claimed mass ratio. The Examiner referred to Ueda for components (B1), (B2) and (B3). He has taken the position that even though the polyamide and the bisphenol are reacted to give the polyetheresteramide, some of the starting materials remain in the final product. As a result, the Examiner believes that the final product is a mixture of a very small amount of starting materials and the polyetheresteramide. However, there is nothing in the disclosure of Ueda to support this argument.

In addition, superior results of the present invention are shown in the Examples.